Consumption and production of steel

602. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per capita steel consumption in the country as compared to other developing countries;

(b) whether steel production during the first six months of the current year i.e. January to June 1994 was less than the steel production during the corresponding period of the last year;

(c) if so, the fall in total output and reasons therefor;

(d) the measures being taken to improve the production of steel in the coming financial year;

(e) the production of sponge iron during the last three years, year-wise; and

(f) the details of production, consumption and export of pig iron during the the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Per capita apparent consumption of Crude Steel in India and in some developing countries of the world in 1992 was as under:—

Country	Per capita consumption in Kg
Argentina	77·9
Brazil	65.5
China	71.3
Egypt	50.9
Indonesia	22.8
India	21.7
Korea (POK)	532.3
Pakistan	14.5

**Source :* Statistical year Book, 1993; IISI, Brussels.

(b) Steel production during the period, January to June, 1994 was 7.89 million tonnes (finished steel) against 7.54 million tonnes in the corresponding period last year.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) To increase domestic production of steel, Government is facilitating the creation of new capacities in the Private Sector. Public Sector Steel Plants have also taken up modernisation/expansion programmes.

(e) Production of sponge iron during the last three years was as under:—

('000 tonnes)

1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1306	1500	2395

(f) Production, consumption and export of Pig Iron during the last three years were as follows:—

('000 tonnes)

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Production	1587	1844	2249
Consumption	1697	1730	1742
Export	—	16	620